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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A method for generating an output signal that comprises:
- receiving samples of a source signal having spectral content;
 - applying a primary transform to overlapping segments of the samples to generate a plurality of sets of spectral coefficients, wherein each set of spectral coefficients has time-domain aliasing artifacts and represents the spectral content of a respective source signal segment for a set of frequencies;
 - ~~obtaining a plurality of spectral coefficients representing the same frequency in the set of frequencies from the plurality of sets of spectral coefficients and assembling the plurality of spectral coefficients into one or more blocks of spectral coefficients, wherein the number of spectral coefficients that are assembled in each of the one or more blocks is adapted in response to a block-length control signal;~~
 - generating one or more sets of hybrid-transform coefficients by applying a secondary transform to the one or more blocks of the spectral coefficients to generate one or more sets of hybrid-transform coefficients representing spectral content of the source signal for a particular frequency in the set of frequencies across time, wherein the number of spectral coefficients in each of the one or more blocks representing the particular frequency is adapted in response to a block-length control signal and the length of the secondary transform that is applied to each of the one or more blocks of spectral coefficients is adapted in response to the block-length control signal; and
 - assembling information representing the one or more sets of hybrid-transform coefficients and the block-length control signal into the output signal.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the primary transform is a Modified Discrete Cosine Transform and the secondary transform is a Discrete Cosine Transform that is applied to blocks of spectral coefficients that do not overlap one another.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2 that comprises:
- generating a measure of similarity for spectral component magnitudes within a plurality of sets of spectral components; and
 - generating the block-length control signal in response to the measure of similarity.